GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2162
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2004
DECCAN ODYSSEY TRAIN
Adhalrao Patil Shri Shivaji

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the splendorous luxury train "Deccan Odyssey" conceptualized by the Government of Maharashtra has since hit the tracks;

(b) if so, the objectives, salient features and tariff of this train and details of the scenic and tourist spots covered by this train;

(c) whether the luxury train is running far below capacity;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the estimated annual income to be generated thereby and the manner in which it would be divided between the Union and the State Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The objective of running "Deccan Odyssey" train is to promote tourism by rail in India. On a 7-day trip, the train originates and terminates at Mumbai and covers the tourist destinations of Ratnagiri, Sindhudurg, Goa, Pune, Aurangabad and Nasik. The tourists are taken to the historical Jaigad and Sindhudurg Forts, for the Back Water Cruise at the Tarkarli, old Goan churches, Museums, the world heritage sites at Ajanta and Ellora. The salient features include the onboard facilities for Multi-cuisine Dining, Conference, Spa, Bar, Gymnasium etc. and sightseeing by Air-conditioned buses. The tariff structure of the Deccan Odyssey is as below:

OCCUPANCY	PEAK SEASON October to March	LEAN SEASON April
Single Occupancy	US $ 485 or Rs.20,000	US $ 395 or Rs.15,000
Double Occupancy	US $ 350 or Rs.15,000	US $ 295 or Rs.12,000
Triple Occupancy	US $ 285 or Rs.10,000	US $ 240 or Rs.9,000
Presidential Suite/Single	US $ 950 or Rs.40,000	US $ 750 or Rs.30,000
Presidential Suite/Double	US $ 700 or Rs.30,000	US $ 550 or Rs.24,000

(Half fare for children between 5 and 12 years)

(Tariff in Rs. is for Domestic Tourists)

(c) to (e): So far it has undertaken only one commercial run on 07/04/2004. The train is receiving bookings for ensuing season. The train has recently been launched and would take some time to establish itself. Presently, it has been decided to share the revenue in the ratio of 50:50 between the Indian Railways and the Maharashtra Tourism Development Corporation (MTDC) till March 2007.